

# THE LEGAL NEWS.

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VOL. XVII.

JUNE 15th, 1894.

No. 12.

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## CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.

In *Cobb v. The Great Western Railway Co.*, a case which went to the House of Lords and was decided by that tribunal on the 4th of June, 1894, an attempt was made to hold a railway company liable for money stolen from the person of a passenger. The grounds alleged in support of the action were two in number: first, negligence of the company in not detaining the train to enable the plaintiff (appellant) to have the suspected persons arrested and searched; secondly, negligence in permitting overcrowding, sixteen persons being crowded into a compartment constructed to carry ten passengers. The House of Lords (Earl of Selborne, Lords Watson, Macnaghten, Morris, and Shand), affirming the decision of the Court of Appeal (62 Law J. Rep., Q. B. 335), held that the starting of the train was not opposing an obstacle to the recovery of the plaintiff's property of such a kind as to make the company liable to damages; and as to the overcrowding, no connection had been shown between it and the loss.

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In *Harper v. Marcks*, the Queen's Bench Division in England (May 23) decided a point somewhat similar to that which came up recently in the lizard or chameleon